

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A needle assembly includes a needle component (10) and a blunting component (26),  
the needle component (10) containing a needle cannula (12) mounted in a housing (16) which  
defines a fluid chamber such as a fluid chamber (20). The blunting component (26) contains a  
5 non-perforated, open-ended blunting probe (28) mounted in a shuttle (30). The needle cannula  
(12) and the blunting probe (28) are disposed telescopically one within the other without ob-  
structing flow through the needle passageway, and are movable between a sharpened configu-  
ration and a blunted configuration. The blunting member (26) is configured to permit the open  
end of the blunting probe (28) to provide flow access to the fluid chamber (20) in the housing  
10 (16).

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